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Sep 5th 2018

Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

## Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

Music in the Vineyards is small non-profit in Napa, California. As a non-profit we need to be fiscally responsible and therefore looked at all the competition before selecting our internet and telephone providers. We have been with Sonic.net since 2005 and regularly compare their prices with the behemoths, AT&T and Comcast. Both large companies charges are three times the price of Sonic and both have appalling customer service, terrible technical back up and do not care about their customers. I am unfortunately restricted to using both of these companies in the town where I live and if there was a competitive service available I would immediately change.

It is vital that there is competition to make these companies treat their customers more fairly. More importantly competition stops these companies scalping their customers by charging whatever they like. Their prices go up randomly by at least 10% a year while their services get worse and worse and each year customers get less for their money.

The use of broadband is critical to our non-profit, all our business is done via our website, 95% of our patrons now contact us via the internet and the use of the telephone has reduced to the point where we are now going to get rid of one of our lines and switch our telephone supplier from AT&T to our local broadband supplier Sonic.net. This will reduce our monthly bill from \$300 to \$70.

I find it utterly unbelievable that in a country with an economy founded on the marketplace that competition is being eliminated from the telephone and broadband sector as it has been from the energy sector. To eliminate freedom of choice and have single suppliers for each service is completely outrageous and detrimental to the freedom so ardently defended. Denying people who live in rural areas access to services because the big companies don't want to serve them is also unconscionable. Shame on you for even considering it.

Evelyn Ayers